

mology, our farmers have been instructed respecting preventive measures which will soon check this insect.

**Reforestation of
Waste Lands**

In many sections of Quebec, we find farms where the light soil, uncovered by undue clearing or impoverished by a wrong system of cultivation, has become transformed into drifting sand, which has extended upon the adjoining lands. The sandy wave buries the good soils, and, if not checked, results in very serious losses. As found by the French foresters, who succeeded in reclaiming the immense sand dunes of the Gascogne district in France, the best method to deal with this problem is to establish, first, a temporary cover with beach grass, then later, to plant with appropriate trees. We started similar work three years ago at Lachute, and we have now 150 acres sown in beach grass and about 50 more completely reclaimed with white pine, Scotch pine, spruce and green ash. Another experiment was carried out last autumn along the main line of the Canadian Pacific railway, in the vicinity of Berthier Junction, and we expect to pursue this work vigorously next spring. As stated above, the reforestation movement is now assuming much importance and we can expect much from this policy of bringing unproductive lands again under cultivation.

**Protection from
Forest Fires**

Though the protection against forest fires does not come under our jurisdiction, I believe it to be my duty to mention here the excellent work done by my colleague, Mr. W. C. J. Hall, who, with a small staff and a small appropriation, succeeded in protecting efficiently the vast area under his care. The lumbermen must also be congratulated and we can mention with pride the excellent organizations of the St. Maurice Valley and of the Lower Ottawa which were the first of the kind in Canada.

Gentlemen, I believe I have said enough to prove to you that the forestry question has received the fullest attention from the Quebec Government. I have not the least doubt that, with the support of the authorities and the co-operation of the lumbermen, we will be able to do much more. Our province is rich in forests and in water-powers, the necessary elements for the manufacture of pulp and paper, so that we may look with confidence for a great future in that direction. But I expect also that the present cut of one billion feet from the forests under license can be increased largely, without any damage to the normality of the stands, provided certain precautions are taken; that is, provided technically trained men are employed by the limit-holders to prepare their working plans. The cut from the private lands now exceeds 800 million feet.